

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 19 and 20 have been rejected as anticipated by McKee U.S. Patent No. 2,163,048 ("McKee").

Claim 2 has been rejected as obvious over McKee.

Claims 3-18 have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter.

Applicant's Response

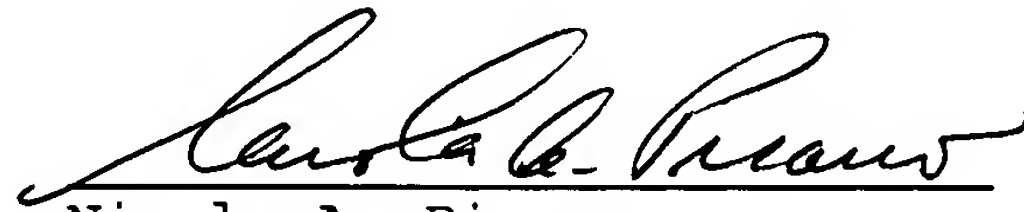
Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 11 and 14.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Claim 3 has been canceled as redundant.

Applicant also submits herewith new claims 21 to 32. New independent claim 21 provides an alternative expression of the invention recited in amended claim 1, and specifically includes the subject matter indicated to be allowable in previously-filed claim 3. Support for the recitations in claim 21 is provided at pages 8-10 of the specification, and FIGS. 1 and 2. Accordingly, claim 21 (and claims 22-32 that depend therefrom) patentably distinguish over the prior art for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks,
applicants submit that the application is in condition for
allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nicola A. Pisano", written in black ink.

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